

rice, 4¢ lb.	25 lbs. dried apples, \$1
granulated sugar, 5¢ lb.	3-lb. can tomatoes, 10¢
cheese, 10-15¢ lb.	eggs, 10-15¢ doz.
52 bars laundry soap, \$1	5 doz. clothes pins, 5¢

While the Bethunes lived in a house which enjoyed neither furnace, electric power nor indoor plumbing,¹⁰ they were not really "pioneers." It can be safely assumed that they did not make candles and soap, churn butter, weave their own clothes, etc. An 1888 book declared that in the "country about Lakes Muskoka and Rosseau...the necessaries, with many of the luxuries of life are now enjoyed by its inhabitants." The statement is probably true.

Furthermore, Gravenhurst was only about 4 hours by train distant from Toronto, and 8 trains stopped at Gravenhurst and/or Muskoka wharf in 24 hours. Supposedly, Gravenhurst residents could go to Toronto to transact business or shop and return the same day they left. Gravenhurst by this time was also linked by rail with Callendar and the Canadian Pacific Main Line.¹¹

10 Electric power came to Gravenhurst in about the fall of 1892. (This does not mean that the manse was electrified that year.) Indoor plumbing was installed in the manse sometime between 1910 and 1915.

11 By this time, the Northern Railway had been absorbed by the Grand Trunk Company.